

2005

WISCONSIN

Deer Hunting Regulations



This pamphlet gives you a summary of Wisconsin's important deer hunting laws and how they affect you; it is not a complete set of laws.



Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

PUB-WM-431 2005

How to Use this Pamphlet

- **Regulation Pamphlet Format.** In an effort to better explain regulations, we have included deer season tables that list each Deer Management Unit (DMU) followed by the specific hunting season dates (gun, bow and muzzleloader) and corresponding bag limit for each individual unit. Therefore, after you read and understand the general regulations, all you need to do is:
 1. Use the appropriate map to locate your DMU (center spread for Non-CWD units or page 59 for CWD units).
 2. Find that DMU number in the left hand column in the appropriate table (non-CWD units on pages 28-47, State Parks on pages 48-50, and CWD units on pages 60-65).
 3. Look across the columns to find out the archery, gun, and muzzleloader seasons and the corresponding harvest limit for your season in that unit.

What's New In 2005

- **Earn-a-Buck-** The only EAB seasons this year are in the CWD zones.
- **Skinning-** Deer carcasses may now be skinned before registration and the lower legs and hooves, up to the tarsus joint ("ankle or hock") on the hind legs, and up to the carpus joint ("wrist or knee") on the front legs, may be removed as well. The head and the rest of the carcass must remain intact. The hide and lower legs, if removed, must also be presented at the time of registration.
- **Baiting Regulations-** On May 1, 2005, the permanent rule for baiting and feeding in Wisconsin took effect. The permanent rule is generally the same as the emergency rule from the previous few years except:
 - No person may use a feeder that is designed to deposit or replenish feed automatically, mechanically, or by gravity.
 - For the purpose of baiting, land is no longer defined as $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{4}$ sections. It is now defined as 40 contiguous acres of land under the same ownership.
- **Carcass Tags-** In order to simplify tagging your deer, Antlerless Bonus Carcass Tags and Zone T Antlerless Deer Carcass Tags have been combined into the **Antlerless Deer Carcass Tag**. One free Antlerless Deer Carcass Tag is issued with the purchase of your gun deer or archery license. If you buy both licenses, you will receive a total of two free tags. Each tag is good for the tagging of an antlerless deer in Zone T and CWD units. Additional tags may be purchased for \$12 (\$20 non-resident) each in DMUs where they are available, on a first come, first served basis starting August 27 until a unit is sold out. Additional tags that are purchased may be used in the unit for which the tag was issued or in any Zone T or CWD unit.
- **Deer Management Units-** The boundaries of DMUs 35, 38, 39, 75A, and 76 have been modified. Additionally, DMU 5 has been eliminated and incorporated into units 2 and 6. See page 36 for details.

Front Cover: Wisconsin Army National Guard 1st Sgt. Darren Krzanowski, a Marathon county resident, and his buck from the 2003 deer season. Sergeant Krzanowski, a lifetime hunter, has served in the National Guard for more than 20 years. He is currently on active duty with 2nd Battalion, 127th Infantry, which is bound for a one-year mission in Southwest Asia. Since September 11, 2001, nearly 70 percent of Wisconsin's Army and Air National Guard members have served on active duty. The department salutes the efforts and sacrifices of our Service Members and their families.

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**For updated information about deer season issues call the
WI DNR Hunting Season Information Line 1-800-282-0367**

**Sale of Antlerless Deer Carcass Tags
over the counter starting Saturday, August 27 at noon.**

Dear Wisconsin Deer Hunter,

Wisconsin is lucky to have tremendous deer hunting opportunities. Each year, hunters here typically harvest more deer than all other states save one or two. Deer are abundant statewide and there are plentiful antlerless deer hunting opportunities. As hunter-conservationists, we have a responsibility to properly manage the deer herd. Deer impact everyone in our state and our responsibility as hunters is to try to meet the population goals, which are established through extensive public input. In many areas of the state this year, that means aggressive harvest of antlerless deer to get the population down toward management goals. Antlerless Deer Carcass Tags are readily available and when put in the hands of the state's top deer managers (you), I know that solid progress will be made.

Having a deer population that is near the goals established is important to conservation, agriculture, and our hunting legacy. Thank you for your commitment to our hunting tradition. Have a safe and enjoyable season.

*Keith Warnke
Big Game Specialist*

License and Privilege Information

Note: License fees are subject to change pending adoption of a fee increase proposal.

License	Resident	Non-Resident
Conservation Patron	\$140	\$600
Conservation Patron Junior (12-17 year olds)	\$75	\$75
<i>Privileges Included:</i> Small Game, Spring and Fall Turkey Licenses and Stamp, Pheasant Stamp, Deer Firearm, Archery, Fishing, Trapping (not included with Non-resident), State Fishing and Waterfowl Stamps, Most Permit Fees, DNR Magazine Subscription, Vehicle Admission to State Parks and Related Areas (Including State Trail Pass)		
Sports	\$45	\$275
Sports Junior (12-17 year olds)	\$35	\$35
<i>Privileges Included:</i> General Fishing, Small Game, Deer with Firearm		
Gun Deer	\$20	\$160
<i>Privileges Included:</i> Deer with Firearm		
Deer Hunter's Choice Application	\$3	\$3
See page 6 for an explanation and availability.		
Antlerless Deer Carcass Tag		
One free with license	\$0	\$0
Additional tag	\$12	\$20
See page 6 for an explanation and availability.		
Archery	\$20	\$160
<i>Privileges Included:</i> Small Game, Deer, and Unprotected Species may be harvested with a bow.		

All licenses available at DNR Service Centers (see page 70), authorized license agents, online at dnr.wi.gov or over the phone at 1-877-WI LICENSE.

Internet License Sales and Applications

Resident and non-resident customers can purchase their hunting licenses and submit their special permit applications via the Internet. This service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week through the DNR website at dnr.wi.gov. Licenses that do not have a back tag, carcass tag, or harvest report card can even be printed at home (other licenses will be delivered by mail within 7 days). When submitting special permit applications, the customer will receive an immediate, printable confirmation that their application data was received. Visit the DNR website or call 608-266-2621 for more information.

Licensing Requirements

- Hunters must carry their valid hunting license on their person while engaged in hunting and exhibit it to a Warden upon request.
- Hunters must meet hunter education requirements in order to obtain a license (see page 7).
- It is illegal to allow someone else to use or carry your license or tag, or for you to use or carry some other person's license or tag when engaged in hunting.
- No person less than 12 years old may obtain a license which authorizes hunting.
- To receive a duplicate license, you must turn in all remaining parts of the lost license to a license vendor (available from any license sales agent).

Adult Supervision Required

A parent or guardian must accompany hunters 12 and 13 years of age.

Accompanied means within sight and voice contact without the aid of any mechanical or electronic amplifying device other than a hearing aid.

Persons under the age of 12 may not possess a firearm.

Effective Dates

- All hunting licenses are effective immediately after purchase and with the opening of the specific seasons except archery licenses.
- **Archery licenses** purchased after the open season for deer begins are not valid until 3 days after the purchase, excluding day of purchase (Example: A license purchased on a Monday is valid on Thursday), except for qualified U.S. Armed Forces Members. See page 7 for details.
- **Gun deer licenses** may be purchased during the regular gun deer season.
- All 2005 deer hunting licenses expire on March 31, 2006.

Deer Permits, Carcass Tags and Licenses

- See tagging chart on page 25 for detailed instructions.
- While hunting, no person may possess a validated carcass tag (of any kind) unless it is attached to a legally killed deer.
- A gun deer license is required to hunt deer with a firearm (including muzzleloaders).
- An archery license is required to hunt deer with bow and arrow (or crossbow by qualified individuals as described on page 14 under "Bows, arrows and crossbows").
- **Backtag** must be displayed where it can be clearly seen in the center of the back of the hunter's outermost garment. **Note:** the backtag number must not be hidden by a coat hood, displayed upside down or be marked up in any manner.
- **Special requirements exist in CWD units. See sections starting on page 51.**
- A Class A or C Disabled Permit authorizes the holder to kill a deer of either sex with a firearm, on a Gun Deer Carcass Tag during any firearm deer season or hunt.

Deer Permits, Carcass Tags and Licenses *continued*

Hunter's Choice Permit

- A Hunter's Choice Permit with an unused Gun Deer Carcass Tag authorizes the harvest of an **antlerless** deer during any firearm deer season.
- A Hunter's Choice Permit with an unfilled Gun Deer Carcass Tag can also be used to tag an antlerless deer during the archery deer season by a hunter using a bow and arrow in the unit specified on the Hunter's Choice Permit if the hunter possesses a valid archery license. (This will eliminate your opportunity to use your Gun Deer Carcass Tag to shoot a buck with a firearm).
- An antlerless deer can only be harvested in the Deer Management Unit authorized by the Hunter's Choice Permit or when the Antlerless Deer Carcass Tag specifies a unit.
- There are no Hunter's Choice Permits available for Zone T or CWD units.
- Required to gain hunting access to some State Park properties.

Antlerless Deer Carcass Tags

- Those issued in regular Deer Management Units are valid for the taking of one antlerless deer only in the unit designated on the permit or can be used to tag an antlerless deer in any Zone T or CWD zone.
- Those issued for Zone T units may be used for the taking of one antlerless deer in **any** Zone T or CWD zone.
- \$12 for Residents, \$20 for Non-Residents.
- The number of Antlerless Deer Carcass Tags available is based on the antlerless quota set for a specific unit. There is an unlimited number for Zone T.
- Available at all license sales locations or online (dnr.wi.gov) starting August 27 at 12:00 noon.
- In State Parks open to deer hunting, that are **not** identified with a DMU number (see pages 48-50), Antlerless Deer Carcass Tags issued for the surrounding unit may be used within the portion of the park open to hunting.

Resident Licenses

To purchase a resident hunting license:

- a person must have maintained a permanent residence in this state for 30 consecutive days immediately before purchasing a license. Domiciliary intent is required. Evidence of domiciliary intent includes where the person votes, pays personal state income taxes, or obtains a driver's license. Mere presence in the state for a 30-day period or ownership of property is not sufficient to establish residency.

Non-resident students attending school in Wisconsin:

- Full-time undergraduate students in residence at a public or private Wisconsin college or university offering a bachelor's degree or foreign citizens residing in the state and attending a Wisconsin high school or a university agricultural short course, may purchase Deer Gun, Archery, and Sports Licenses at resident prices.

Always Remember the Four Rules of Firearm Safety

1. Treat every gun as if it were loaded.
2. Always point the muzzle in a safe direction.
3. Be sure of your target and beyond.
4. Keep your finger out of the trigger guard until you are ready to shoot.

Hunter Education Requirements

Persons born on or after January 1, 1973, must present their Hunter Education certificate, previous year's hunting license, or proof of successful completion of basic training in the U.S. Armed Forces, Reserves or National Guard to purchase any hunting license. A certificate of successful completion of a Bow Hunter Education course can be used to purchase an archery license. Contact your local DNR office for course information or visit our web site at dnr.wi.gov.

First time Hunter Education Graduates

Residents 12 years old and older, who are first time graduates from a *Wisconsin Hunter Education course*, are entitled to harvest an antlerless deer with their regular Gun Deer License Carcass Tag, during the deer season immediately following graduation, in the following designated areas: all deer management units state wide except the Loew Lake Unit of the Kettle Moraine State Forest, State Park units, Fort McCoy, Unit 48 (Menomonee Reservation), and all non-quota areas. The antlerless deer must be tagged with the graduate's valid Gun Deer Carcass Tag, and the hunter must possess proof of hunter education graduation.

Armed Forces Members

Armed Forces members are entitled to the following:

- Exemption from hunter education requirements (see above).
- A U.S. Armed Forces member who exhibits proof that he or she is a **Wisconsin resident**:
 1. in **active service, outside of the state**, with the Armed Forces, and
 2. is on **furlough or leave**, may harvest one deer of either sex during any firearm deer season established by the department with his or her Gun Deer Carcass Tag.
- **Any U.S. Armed Forces member** who exhibits proof of **active service** and that he or she is:
 1. **stationed in the state** or
 2. is a **resident on furlough or leave**, are exempt from the three day waiting period for resident Archery and resident Conservation Patron License purchased after the season opens.
- **Any non-resident active duty U.S. Armed Forces member stationed in Wisconsin** may purchase Gun Deer, Archery, and Sports Licenses at resident prices.

Disabled Hunters

A qualified disabled person may obtain a permit to hunt from a stationary vehicle and/or use a crossbow. Class A and C disabled hunters are authorized to harvest deer of either sex with their regular Gun Deer Carcass Tag during any gun deer season. This means that a hunter with a Class A or Class C Disabled Permit may fill their one regular Gun Deer Carcass Tag with:

1. an antlerless deer without the need for a Hunter's Choice Permit, or
2. a buck during the October or December antlerless only Zone T hunts, or
3. a buck during the CWD EAB gun season without the need to shoot an antlerless deer first.

Contact a DNR Service Center for details. Allow 30-60 days for processing.

Important: Disabled permits issued prior to 1989 expired in 1994. If you possess an old permit, which has no expiration date, contact your local DNR Service Center.

Special Hunts

Many of the deadlines for special hunts occur prior to the publication of this pamphlet. If you are interested in these hunts, note the deadlines for 2006.

Educational Hunts:

- **Buckhorn State Park and Wildlife Area:** Deer hunting is offered to youth who complete a "Learn to Hunt Workshop." For applications and information regarding dates and fees, write or call Buckhorn State Park at W8450 Buckhorn Park Avenue, Necedah, WI 54646-7338; Phone 608-565-2789. *Applications for 2006 are due July 15, 2006.*
- **Sandhill Outdoor Skills Center:** Deer hunting is offered to youth and beginner adults who complete a "Learn to Deer Hunt Workshop." For dates and fees, write or call the Center at Box 156, Babcock, WI 54413; 715-884-2437. *Applications for 2006 are due May 31, 2006.*

Disabled Deer Hunts: Oct. 1–Oct. 9, 2005. Interested disabled hunters who wish to participate in 2005, should contact the nearest DNR Service Center or disabled deer hunt sponsor before *September 1st*. People who wish to sponsor a deer hunt for people with Class A and C disabilities *in 2006* must submit an application to their local wildlife manager by *June 1, 2006*.

Youth Deer Hunt

- Open to persons 12–15 years of age (resident or non-resident) who possess a hunter education certificate of accomplishment and a gun deer license.
- May harvest an *antlerless* deer *with a gun* on Saturday, October 29 in any Regular Deer Management Units. Zone T and CWD units are not included in this one-day hunt, because youth can already hunt on this Saturday in these units.
- The bag limit is one antlerless deer per Hunter's Choice Permit or Antlerless Deer Carcass Tag.
- Youth who are first time graduates of the Wisconsin hunter education program may use their certificates of accomplishment in place of a Hunter's Choice Permit with their Gun Deer Carcass Tag to harvest an antlerless deer.
- Antlered deer may not be harvested with a gun during this one day youth hunt *unless* the youth holds a valid Class A or C disabled permit issued by the DNR.
- Allowable types of guns are those authorized for the regular gun deer season.
- Hunters shall be accompanied by an adult 18 years of age or older.
- One adult may not accompany more than 2 youth hunters and all other hunting regulations apply.

Badger Army Ammunition Plant: For hunting information send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Commander's Representative, Badger Army Ammunition Plant, ATTN: SMCBA-NR, Baraboo, WI 53913-5000.

Volk Field Military Facility/Deer Hunting: For hunting information send a self-addressed, stamped business envelope (8 3/4" X 3 3/4") to: Attn: Natural Resources Management, Volk Field ANGB, 100 Independence Dr., Camp Douglas, WI 54618-5001. Website: www.volkfield.ang.af.mil/dnrden/index.html.

Fort McCoy Military Reservation: Applications for hunting permits may be obtained by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to: Directorate of Training, Mobilization and Security, AFRC-FM-TMR-B (Permit Sales), 110 E. Headquarters Rd., Fort McCoy WI 54656-5226. Applications may also be obtained from the Web site at www.mccoy.army.mil. Applications are available at the end of February. Information: 608-388-3337.

Special Hunts *continued*

Apostle Islands (Deer Management Unit 79): Permits are required to participate in the Oct. 1-31 muzzleloader season. Permit applications are accepted between June 15 and July 15. Contact the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore for application forms and further information through email: APIS_resource_issues@nps.gov; writing: Superintendent, Apostle Islands National Lake Shore, Rt. 1, Box 4, Bayfield, WI 54814; or by phone: 715-779-3397. Madeline and Long Islands are open to regular statewide seasons.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Lands

Portions of National Wildlife Refuges (NWR) and Waterfowl Production Areas (WPA) are open to hunting and trapping in accordance with state and federal regulations. Federal regulations will vary. ***In order to avoid violating federal regulations contact the office of the NWR or WPA you will be hunting at to get regulations specific to that property*** (see numbers below). Additional information may be obtained from the Web at midwest.fws.gov

Horicon NWR- Mayville, WI 920-387-2658

Fox River NWR- (Marquette County) contact the Horicon office 920-387-2658

Necedah NWR- Necedah, WI 608-565-2551

Trempealeau NWR- Trempealeau, WI 608-539-2311

Whittlesey Creek NWR- Ashland, WI 715-685-2678

Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge-
Winona, MN 507-452-4232

Leopold Wetland Management District (WMD)- Portage, WI 608-742-7100

Contact this office for information regarding WPAs in the southeast.

St. Croix WMD- New Richmond, WI 715-246-7784

Contact this office for information regarding WPAs in the northwest.

National Wildlife Refuge and Waterfowl Production Area Regulations

The following is a partial list of general NWR and WPA regulations. Be sure to check with the property you will be hunting on for complete regulations. Additional federal regulations may be listed elsewhere in this pamphlet.

It is illegal to:

- Possess any firearm, bow, or other weapons unless engaged in legal hunting.
Note: Concealed weapons, including those approved by permit, are illegal anytime.
- Build or use a ground blind or any elevated device, unless it does not damage the tree (i.e. no use of screws, nails, etc.) **and** it is completely removed from the property each day at the close of hunting hours.
- Construct permanent blinds out of man made materials. **Note:** Portable blinds constructed of man made materials are allowed, but must be removed from the property each day at the close of hunting hours.
- Possess alcoholic beverages while hunting.
- Camp, horseback ride, have campfires or use overnight on WPAs.
- Shine at any time.
- Hunt with the use of any type of bait, including salt or mineral blocks.

State-Owned Lands (Including State Forests)

It is illegal to:

- hunt or possess any firearm or bow in any wildlife refuge or possess any firearm, air gun, slingshot or bow in any state park, state fish hatchery, or within 100 yards of any state campground or picnic area (except as posted open to deer hunting) unless it is unloaded and enclosed within a carrying case, or in the case of a bow/crossbow, unstrung or enclosed within a carrying case.
- pursue, drive or chase animals on lands under the ownership or control of the DNR that are closed to hunting.
- build or use a ground blind or any elevated device on lands owned or under the control of the DNR unless it does not damage the tree and it is completely removed from the property each day at the close of hunting hours. This also includes lands enrolled in the Managed Forest Law (MFL) and Forest Crop Law (FCL) programs, however this does not apply to the landowners of land enrolled in these programs or those who have the landowner's authorization.

Note: Ground blinds may be constructed entirely of dead vegetation found on the property. All national forest lands, federal refuges and Waterfowl Production Areas are protected by similar rules. For lands under county ownership, check local ordinances.

- damage trees on state-owned lands including MFL and FCL lands.
Note: The cutting of shooting lanes and use of screw-in tree-stands or steps are considered damaging and are illegal.
- possess any loaded or uncased firearm while within the exterior boundary of state-owned lands posted with department signs in Dane, Dodge, Fond du Lac, Jefferson, Juneau, Kenosha, La Crosse, Milwaukee, Outagamie, Ozaukee, Racine, Sauk, Sheboygan, Walworth, Washington, Waukesha and Winnebago counties or on state forest lands in the Kettle Moraine or Point Beach state forests, state recreation areas or on state trails established on abandoned railroad grades, except as follows:
 1. while engaged in hunting in accordance with the open deer seasons which are listed by unit in this pamphlet.
 2. while engaged in hunting in accordance with open hunting seasons listed in the *2005 Small Game Hunting Regulations*.
 3. while shooting at an established target range (this is the only target shooting permitted on state lands).
- operate motor vehicles, including ATV's and snowmobiles on state owned lands, except on roads and areas posted open to their use.
- camp on any state lands except in designated campgrounds unless a special camp registration permit is obtained from the DNR prior to setting up camp.

Tribal lands

Special rules apply on tribal lands in portions or all of Ashland, Bayfield, Forest, Iron, Menominee, Oneida, Sawyer, and Vilas counties. For more information, contact the tribal chairpersons.

**Pick up litter and
keep your hunting grounds healthy!**

Private Lands and Landowner Information

License Requirements: A landowner is required to have a license to hunt deer. The owner or occupant of any land and any immediate family member 12 years old and over living with them, may, *without a license* and subject to all other restrictions except seasons, hunt or trap on their own property for beaver, foxes, coyotes, raccoons, woodchucks, rabbits, and squirrels year-round; however, hunting is not allowed during the 24-hour period immediately preceding the regular 9-day gun deer season.

Liability: Under sec. 895.52 of the Wisconsin Statutes, landowners are generally immune from liability for injuries received by individuals recreating on their lands. This law provides liability protection for landowners from injury or death of individuals occurring when participating in outdoor recreation activities on their land such as fishing, hunting, trapping, hiking, camping, boating and berry picking. This immunity does not apply when the landowner receives more than \$2,000 a year income from the recreation activity or when the landowner acted maliciously with an intent to harm the recreator. There also is an exception for social guests invited specifically for an occasion on residential or platted property or property within 300 feet of a commercial building or structure. Courts have consistently interpreted this statute to protect landowners in furtherance of its purpose, to encourage landowners to allow others to recreate on their lands.

Trespassing: Landowners suspecting that individuals are trespassing on their property should **contact their local Sheriff's Department or other local law enforcement agency**. Conservation Wardens do not have the authority to investigate trespassing complaints. Any person convicted of trespassing is subject to a penalty of up to \$1,359. According to s. 943.13, of the Wisconsin Statutes, it is illegal to:

- enter land of another without the express or implied consent of the owner or occupant of the land, or
- enter or remain on land after having been notified by the owner or occupant not to enter or remain. A person has received notice from the owner or occupant if he or she has been notified personally, either orally or in writing, or if the land is posted.

Remember: Although hunters are required to make a reasonable effort to retrieve game they have killed or injured, hunters may not trespass to retrieve such game, even if the game was shot from outside the posted area.

Farmer Antlerless Deer Carcass Tags: Eligible resident farm owners can receive one free Antlerless Deer Carcass Tag for each Antlerless Deer Carcass Tag they purchase in units that have carcass tags available after August 27. To qualify, a majority of the land on the farm must be used on a commercial basis and for an agricultural purpose to provide income during the year that the permit is valid. If there are joint owners or vendee names under a land contract, only one of the owners is eligible for the free Antlerless Deer Carcass Tag.

Managed Forest Lands: Landowners enrolled in either the Forest Crop Law or the Managed Forest Law programs are not required to remove elevated tree stands daily (from land they own as long as no damage is done to the tree). This exception can also be granted to other individuals using the landowner's property with the landowner's prior permission. In addition, owners of land enrolled in these programs and individuals authorized by the landowner can operate vehicles and park on these lands.

General Deer Hunting Regulations

Blaze Orange Clothing Requirements

During any gun or muzzleloader deer season (including the October 29 Youth Deer Hunt, Zone T, or CWD hunts), no person may hunt any game, except waterfowl, unless at least 50% of the person's outer clothing above the waist is colored blaze orange. A hat, if worn, must be at least 50% blaze orange. Faded or stained blaze orange clothing is unsafe and may not meet law requirements. Camo-blaze which is 50% blaze orange is legal, but is not as visible as solid blaze clothing. 100% solid blaze orange is recommended.

Hunting Hours:

- See tables on pages 66-69 for specific daily legal hours. The legal hours are 1/2 hour before sunrise to 20 minutes after sunset.

Firearm and Bow Restrictions

General Restrictions

It is illegal to:

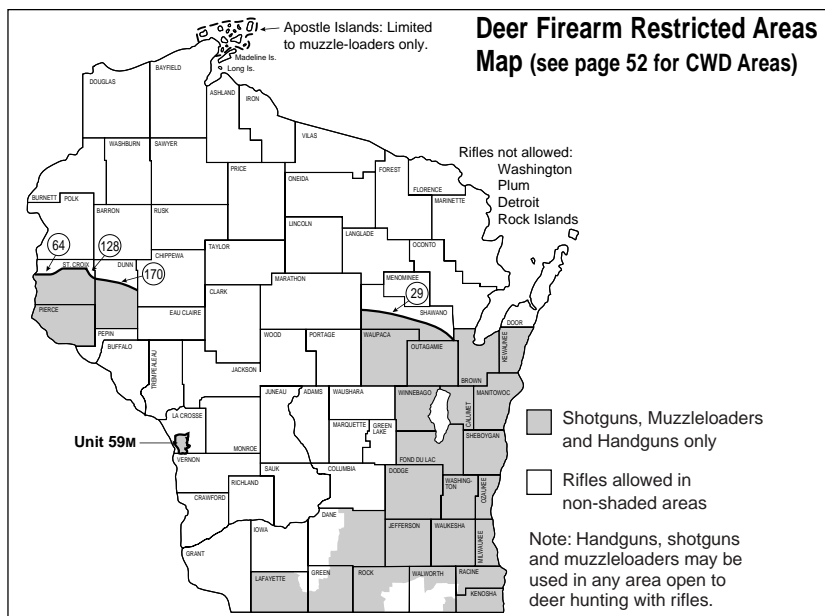
- hunt with a fully automatic firearm.
- hunt with any means other than a gun discharged from the shoulder or a bow and arrow. Handguns may be used as described under the "handgun section" (page 13). Crossbows may be used as described under the "bows, arrows, and crossbows section" (page 14).
- possess any firearm from 12:00 midnight–11:59 p.m. on November 18, 2005 unless the firearm is unloaded and enclosed within a carrying case. **Exceptions:** target shooting at established target ranges and on private lands by landowners and immediate family members who live with them, waterfowl hunting during open season, and hunting on licensed bird hunting preserves.
Note: An established target range means an existing location that is set up for target shooting with firearms as its major purpose.
- shoot a firearm within 100 yards of a building devoted to human occupancy while on lands you do not own (including public lands) without the permission of the owner or occupant of that building.
- hunt deer or bear with ammunition loaded with full metal jacket, nonexpanding type bullets.
- possess or control any shotshell loaded with single slug or ball while hunting, except during the gun season for deer or bear.
- possess while hunting, shotshells loaded with shot larger than No. BB from June 1–Nov. 29 (or June 1–Dec. 13 in Zone T units).

Note: Be sure to check with local authorities for local restrictions before using firearms in urbanized or populated areas.

Rifles:

- Must have an overall 26" minimum length with 16" minimum barrel length.
- Are legal for hunting deer in areas not restricted to shotgun, muzzleloaders and handguns only as indicated by non-shaded areas on map (page 13).
- It is illegal to possess a rifle larger than .22 rimfire during any gun deer season in shotgun only areas unless it is unloaded and enclosed within a carrying case.
- It is illegal to hunt deer with any rimfire rifle or any center-fire rifle less than .22 caliber.
- Any .22 caliber or larger centerfire rifle is legal to use to hunt deer.

Firearm and Bow Restrictions *continued*



Shotguns:

- Must have an overall 26" minimum length with 18" minimum barrel length.
- Rifled shotgun barrels of at least 18" in length are considered to be shotguns for the purpose of hunting deer if they fire a single projectile and are in the following gauges: 10, 12, 16, 20 and 28. These are the only legal gauges for hunting deer.
- It is illegal to hunt deer with a .410 bore shotgun.

Muzzleloaders

- Smoothbore .45 caliber or larger and rifled .40 caliber or larger muzzleloaders, discharged from the shoulder, are legal for deer hunting. **During the 10-day muzzleloader only season (Nov. 28 - Dec. 7)**, must have a solid threaded breech plug, only able to be loaded from the muzzle, and may not have telescopic sights (1 power or less are legal). **Note: Inline muzzleloaders** are legal to use during the 10-day muzzleloader hunt with black powder or black powder substitute.
- Muzzleloaders may be used in all regular deer season zones and firearm herd-control hunts.
- Muzzleloading handguns .44 caliber and larger with a minimum barrel length of 7 inches measured from muzzle to breech face, that fire a single projectile weighing 138 grains or more are legal for deer hunting.

Handguns:

- To be legal for deer, handguns must use centerfire cartridges of .22 caliber or larger and have a 5 1/2 inch minimum barrel, measured from the firing pin to the muzzle with the action closed.
- **You must be 18 years old to hunt with or possess a handgun.**
Note: Target shooting with handguns by persons under the age of 18 years is allowed only when supervised by an adult.
- You may not possess a concealed handgun.
- Muzzleloading handguns, see "Muzzleloaders."

Firearm and Bow Restrictions *continued*

Bows, arrows, and crossbows:

- Bows must have a draw weight of 30 pounds or greater and metal broadheads must be at least 7/8 inches wide and kept sharp to hunt deer or bear.
- Bows equipped with a draw-lock type mechanism/device that is capable of holding the bow at full draw are considered crossbows.
- Crossbows are only allowed for resident hunters 65 yrs of age or older and disabled hunters with a Class A, B, C, or crossbow permit. The crossbow (including compound bows equipped with full draw-lock) must have a minimum draw of 100 pounds, a working safety, and use at least 14-inch long bolts or arrows equipped with broadheads (requires an archery license).
- You may not possess, while hunting, any crossbow (except as authorized above) or poisoned, drugged or explosive tipped arrow.

Arms transportation:

- All firearms must be unloaded and completely enclosed within carrying cases when in or on any vehicle whether moving or stationary. Bows and crossbows must be unstrung or in a case whenever in or on a vehicle. Some exceptions apply for disabled hunters issued class A or B disabled permits.
- All firearms must be unloaded when in or on any motor driven boat while the motor is running. All bows/crossbows must be unstrung or enclosed within a carrying case when in or on any motor driven boat while the motor is running.
Note: Muzzleloaders are considered unloaded if the cap is removed from a percussion muzzleloader or the flashpan is cleaned of powder on a flintlock muzzleloader; the ball and powder can remain in the barrel.
Note: A holster is not a legal carrying case for a handgun unless it completely encloses the handgun, so that no part of the handgun is visible.

Muzzleloader Only Deer Season

- If after the regular gun deer season, you or your group hunting party still possess an unused Gun Deer Carcass Tag or Antlerless Deer Carcass Tag, you can participate in the muzzleloader hunt.
- Blaze orange clothing requirements apply (see page 12).
- Legal bucks may be harvested under the authority of an unused regular Gun Deer License Carcass Tag only.
- The muzzleloader only season will be held statewide except in some state parks, metro units and CWD units.
- Antlerless deer may only be harvested with unfilled Hunter's Choice Permits and Antlerless Deer Carcass Tags in units for which they are valid.

Group Deer Hunting Law

Group Hunting: It is illegal to kill game for another person EXCEPT that during a *deer firearm season only*, any member of a group deer hunting party may kill a deer for another member of the party if they are all licensed and are all hunting with firearms. Members of a group deer hunting party should also agree in advance that a tag holder is willing to use their tag on a deer killed by another member of the party. The following conditions are established by law to ensure that hunters are actively participating in the hunt, are in the field and do not harvest more deer than the group has tags for:

1. A group deer hunting party must be at least 2 or more hunters who are hunting together in the same area.

Group Deer Hunting Law *continued*

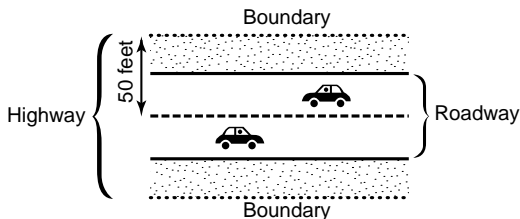
- Each hunter must be using a firearm and be licensed to hunt deer. Other hunters may not shoot antlerless deer for first time hunter education graduates who are using their Hunter Education card as a permit for antlerless deer. Hunter education graduates may use group hunting to harvest a deer under a Hunter's Choice Permit or Antlerless Deer Carcass Tag issued by the DNR.
- When the deer is killed, the hunter who kills the deer must be in either voice or visual contact with the hunter who will tag the deer. Temporary loss of voice or visual contact for a reasonable time due to terrain or weather conditions is acceptable.
- Hunters may not use cellular phones, radio communications or other mechanical or electronic amplifying devices, (except hearing aids) to get someone to tag a deer. ***It is legal to use electronic devices for reasons other than getting someone to tag a deer.***
- The hunter for whom the deer is killed must possess a valid, unused Gun Deer Carcass Tag or Antlerless Deer Carcass Tag for the type of deer killed.
- The hunter killing the deer may not leave the deer unattended until after the deer is tagged and the tag is validated according to the deer carcass tagging instructions. A hunter is attending a deer if the hunter can see the deer.
- Group hunting requires all participants to possess firearms, therefore, convicted felons cannot participate in group deer hunting or allow use of their tag by any one else. Deer drivers are not required to possess firearms or hunting licenses.
- The above conditions describe a legal group deer hunting party. All hunters must be present and hunting together in the same area to be a group deer hunting party. Hunters may not kill deer for persons who are at home, work, school, camp or at other locations apart from the area where the hunter killed the deer.
- Group deer hunting by adults that accompany a youth hunter during the one day youth deer hunt on October 29 is **not** allowed.

Hunting Near Roadways

Highway means the entire width between the boundary lines of every public road, but does not include private roads and driveways.

Roadway means the portion of the highway which is improved or ordinarily used for vehicle travel, excluding the berm or shoulder.

Public road means those roads shown on the current, official county highway map available from the Department of Transportation.



It is illegal to:

- Hunt within 50 feet from the roadway's center, or
- Discharge a firearm, shoot an arrow from a bow, or a bolt from a crossbow:
 - From or across a highway, or
 - Within 50 feet of the roadway's center.

The above prohibition applies to all public roads (defined above). However, anyone

Hunting Near Roadways *continued*

hunting small game with a muzzleloader or shotgun loaded with shot size BB or smaller is exempt from these prohibitions if the roadway is unpaved (dirt, sand or gravel). **Exceptions:** Certain exceptions are allowed for Class A and B Disabled Permit holders. Call the nearest DNR Service Center (page 70) for an explanation of these exceptions.

Vehicle Restrictions

It is illegal to operate any vehicle, including, but not limited to, snowmobiles, bicycles, trail bikes, and all terrain vehicles on lands owned or under the control of the DNR and on federal waterfowl production areas, except where their use is authorized by posted notice or permit or in the case of Managed Forest Law and Forest Crop Law lands, authorization of the landowner. This prohibition does not apply to public roadways and trails held open to the public for the type of vehicle being operated.

Shining

It is illegal to:

- use or possess with intent to use, a light (including vehicle headlights) for shining any wild animal while hunting or in possession of a firearm, bow or crossbow (includes laser sights on firearms, bows and crossbows).
- use or possess with intent to use, whether or not a firearm or bow is in possession, a light for shining wild animals (including vehicle headlights) between the hours of 10 p.m. and 7 a.m. from September 15 through December 31.

Note: Some areas may prohibit shining by local ordinance. Check with the local Sheriff's department or township officials for local shining restrictions.

- shine at any time on federal refuges and Waterfowl Production Areas.

Exceptions: A flashlight may be used: 1) while shooting raccoon, fox, or unprotected species at the point of kill while hunting on foot, or 2) to find your way.

Use of devices

It is illegal to:

- hunt any animal with the aid of an airplane.
- use any bow equipped with a draw-lock type mechanism that is capable of holding a bow at full draw while hunting.

Note: such devices are legal for use by individuals authorized to use crossbows, but must meet minimum draw weight and safety requirements described under "bows, arrows and crossbows" on page 14.

- use or possess laser sights while hunting, except by Class C visually handicapped permit holders.
- use cell phones or two-way radios to call someone to tag a deer, but can be used for other communication purposes while hunting.

Dogs

- It is illegal to hunt deer with dogs.
- Dogs are considered private property and are protected by law. Only Conservation Wardens may kill dogs chasing deer. Owners may be held responsible for damage caused by their dogs.
- A dog that is actively engaged in a legal hunting activity, including training, is not considered to be running at large if the dog is monitored or supervised by a person and the dog is on land that is open to hunting or on land on which the person has obtained permission to hunt or to train a dog.

Transport, Possession and Sale of Deer

It is illegal to:

- sell, purchase, or barter, or offer to sell, purchase or barter any deer or part thereof **except:** the head, skin, and antlers of any deer lawfully killed, when severed from the rest of the carcass.
- possess a deer with broken or removed antlers during gun deer season during an antlerless only deer season, which makes determination of legality impossible.
- possess a deer carcass unless tagged and registered as required.
- possess deer antlers in velvet, spotted hides or white deer which are entirely white except the hooves, tarsal glands, heads and parts of the head, unless special written authorization is obtained from the department.

Note: Deer with antlers in velvet or in spotted coat may be harvested during the open deer season, however to keep the antlers or spotted hide the hunter must contact a Warden within 7 days of tagging the deer and request written authorization. The spotted hide and velvet antlers may not be sold or transferred to another.

- transport another person's unregistered deer unless accompanied by the person issued the carcass tag. Once registered, anyone may transport the animal.

Note: Residents and non-residents may transport legally possessed deer out of state once registered. However, other states may have transportation restrictions; be sure to check with the wildlife agency in the state you will be entering regarding import regulations. **Attention: for transportation requirements in CWD Zones see page 54.**

Vehicle-Killed Deer Tagging and Possession

- Contact your Sheriff's Department to obtain a tag before moving the deer so that the carcass, or part of the carcass, can be legally possessed.
- No fee will be charged for a vehicle-killed deer tag. The tag is valid for 90 days.
- Any person may claim a deer that has been killed by a motor vehicle operated on a highway. The driver of a vehicle that accidentally collides with and kills a deer has first priority to the deer. If the driver does not want the deer, any other person who arrives at the scene may request a tag for the carcass.
- Albino or all white deer may not be possessed under a vehicle-killed deer tag.
- To keep the spotted hide or velvet antlers from a vehicle-killed deer you must contact your local Warden before the 90-day tag expires for special written authorization to retain possession of these parts.
- Any person who has claimed and received a tag for a vehicle-killed deer must remove the entire deer carcass from the highway. It is not legal to remove parts of the deer and leave the rest.

FIREWOOD

**Your firewood can harbor pests or diseases.
Don't leave any unused firewood behind at your deer camp.**

**Remember:
IF YOU BRING IT, BURN IT!**

For more information visit dnr.wi.gov/invasives

Taking and Possession of Game

It is illegal to:

- take any deer or wild animal which has been lawfully obtained by someone else without having that person's consent.
- not immediately kill all game taken and make it part of the daily bag.
- carelessly waste game. You must make every reasonable effort to retrieve all game killed or crippled. Until such effort is made, such game shall be included in the daily bag. This rule does not allow you to trespass without permission of the landowner nor shoot game beyond established shooting hours.
- possess any game unless you hold a valid hunting license or state permit carried on your person, unless you are hunting as a landowner, as explained on page 11.

Taxidermists

As a result of recent legislation, there is no longer an exemption from the need for a taxidermist permit for individuals that only mount deer heads for a consideration (compensation) or fee. Any person that mounts deer heads for a consideration or fee in Wisconsin must possess a valid taxidermist permit. Application information is available by contacting your nearest DNR Service Center (page 70). A copy of these regulations is available at <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/caer/cs/licenses.htm>.

Hunting Accidents

Any person involved in an accident in which a person is injured by gunfire or bow and arrow or crossbow while hunting or trapping must first render necessary assistance and immediately report the incident to the local Warden, Sheriff or Police. In addition, every person involved in a hunting accident must render a written report to the DNR within 10 days.

Deer Baiting

Counties where deer baiting is prohibited

Baiting for deer hunting purposes is **prohibited** in Adams, Calumet, Columbia, Crawford, Dane, Dodge, Grant, Green, Iowa, Jefferson, Juneau, Kenosha, Lafayette, Manitowoc, Marquette, Milwaukee, Portage, Racine, Richland, Rock, Sauk, Sheboygan, Vernon, Walworth, Waukesha, and Waushara Counties.

Baiting: No person may place, use or hunt over bait or feed material for the purpose of hunting deer or other game (except bear) unless authorized by a special permit or license issued by the department *except:*

Scents: Scent may be used for hunting deer or other wild animals, but the scent may not be placed or deposited in a manner that it is accessible for consumption by deer, and scents shall be removed daily at the end of hunting hours established for deer. However, two ounces or less of scent may be placed, used or deposited in any manner for hunting deer and does not need to be removed daily at the end of hunting hours.

Natural Vegetation and Plantings: You may hunt with the aid of material deposited by natural vegetation or material found solely as a result of normal agricultural or gardening practices, or with the aid of crops planted and left standing as wildlife food plots.

Counties where baiting is allowed

In the remainder of the state (except for U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service lands), baiting for deer hunting purposes is allowed under the following conditions:

Amount: No person may place, use or hunt over more than 2 gallons of bait or feed at any feeding site.

Deer Baiting *continued*

Placement: No person may place, use or hunt over:

- More than 2 gallons of bait on each contiguous area of land under the same ownership that is less than 40 acres in size, or for each full 40 acres that make up a contiguous area of land under the same ownership (**note:** parcels of land that do not touch but are separated only by a town, county or state highway are considered contiguous). **Note:** Feed at feeding sites may be spread out or divided into more than one pile as long as the total amount of feed material is not more than 2 gallons per forty acres.
- Any feeding site that is located within 100 yards of any other feeding site located on the same contiguous area of land under the same ownership.
- Any feeding site if the person doing the hunting is within 100 yards of more than 2 gallons of bait or feed located on the same parcel of land.
- Any feeding site that is located within 50 yards of any trail, road, or campsite used by the public, or within 100 yards from a roadway, having a posted speed limit of 45 miles per hour or more.

Timing: No person may:

- Place, use or hunt over bait or feed for hunting purposes during the closed season for hunting deer, but may place bait for deer hunting up to 24 hours prior to the deer archery and the deer gun seasons. (**Note:** The 24-hour period is the period from 12:00 am to 11:59 pm on the day immediately before the season.)
- Hunt over bait or a feeding site that is in violation of these regulations, unless the area is completely free of bait or feed material for at least 10 consecutive days prior to hunting, pursuing animals or dog training.

Content: No person may place use or hunt over any bait or feed material that:

- Contains any animal part or animal by-product (liquid scents are legal).
Note: Animal parts and by-products include honey, bones, fish, meat, solid animal fat, animal carcasses, or parts of animal carcasses.
- Is contained in or deposited by a feeder that is designed to deposit or replenish feed automatically, mechanically, or by gravity.
- Contains or is contained within, metal, paper, plastic, glass, wood or other similar processed materials. This does not apply to scent materials.

License: No person may use or hunt over bait or feed material placed for deer without possessing an appropriate valid archery or gun deer license and valid, unused carcass tag.

Baiting and Feeding Frequently Asked Questions

What exactly is considered bait?

Bait is **any material** that is placed or used to attract wild animals, including scent materials, salt, minerals, grains, etc.

What is considered a scent material?

Scent is any material, except animal parts or by-products, used to attract wild animals solely by its odor.

Can I use an automatic or elevated feeder to bait or feed deer?

No. It is not legal to use these types of feeders for baiting deer for hunting or for feeding wild deer for viewing purposes.

Does the 2 gallons per 40 acres also apply to public land?

Yes. If a hunter wants to place more than 2 gallons of bait on any public hunting land, then the hunter will need to make sure that each bait site does not exceed 2 gallons and they do not place more than 2 gallons for each 40 acres of public land

Baiting and Feeding Frequently Asked Questions *continued*

that is contiguous, *and* that each site is more than 100 yards from any other bait site placed by them or another.

What if my neighbor has a bait site on his property that is less than 100 yards from my stand where I want to place a bait site?

The 100 yard rule does not apply to bait sites that are located on an adjacent property which has a different owner. Where you place your one bait site is not affected or restricted by where a neighbor places their bait site, on their land.

If there are 4 members in my hunting party, can we each place 2 gallons of bait?

Yes, but each bait site must be at least 100 yards apart and the hunters may not hunt within 100 yards of more than one site (or 2 gallons of bait) at a time. So, if more than one hunter will be placing a bait site on the same property, or 40 acres, the hunters *may not* hunt from any location that allows them to use more than 2 gallons or be within 100 yards of more than one bait site. Hunting halfway between 2 bait sites located less than 200 yards apart is not legal. Keeping all bait sites at least 200 yards apart will eliminate the risk of violating the hunting within 100 yards of more than one bait site restriction.

If I own or hunt on a 50 acre or larger parcel, how many bait sites can I have?

Each hunter may place up to 2 gallons of bait for each property under the same ownership regardless of the size of the property. If the property is larger than 40 acres, then each hunter may place an additional 2-gallons of bait for each additional full 40 acres of contiguous land under the same ownership *if* the bait sites are at least 100 yards away from any other bait site. Therefore, only 2 gallons may be placed by each hunter on any property less than 80 acres in size.

Note:

1. Hunters that only plan to place one bait site for hunting purposes do not need to worry about how many acres they own or have permission to hunt on.

2. Hunters that plan to place more than one bait site for hunting purposes will need to be familiar with the location and boundaries of the property they will be hunting and baiting. Each hunter is limited to two gallons of bait for each full 40 acres of land that make up the property.

What if I have more than one stand on my 40 acres? Can I maintain a bait site at each location, or for other hunters?

Yes, provided all of the bait sites do not contain more than 2 gallons total. No one, including family members, may place out another hunter's 2 gallons of bait.

Can I hunt over someone else's bait site? Can someone else hunt over my bait site without my permission?

Yes. If it is a legally placed bait site, there is no restriction on how many hunters use that one bait site. This applies to both public and private lands. Placing a bait site out on public lands does not reserve that area for the exclusive use of the hunter who places the bait.

If I only hunt deer during the firearm season and do not bow hunt, when can I start baiting for deer?

Placement of bait for deer hunting can be done during any open season for deer hunting and the day before the season opens. So, the day before the archery deer season opens is the 1st day anyone may begin to place out bait for deer, and all baiting for deer must stop when all the deer seasons have closed for that area.

Baiting and Feeding Frequently Asked Questions *continued*

In areas where deer baiting is not allowed, what CAN I USE to attract deer closer to my stand if I can't use bait?

Use of the following are legal statewide:

- Decoys
- Scents
- Naturally occurring material (such as acorns), deposited by natural vegetation, that is not collected and relocated in any manner.
- Crops planted and left standing as wildlife food plots.
- Material deposited solely as a result of normal agricultural or gardening practices and not collected and relocated for hunting or other purposes.

Are there any restrictions on scent material?

The following rules apply statewide:

- Up to 2 ounces of scent (liquid or solid) may be placed or used in any manner (on the ground, scrapes, branches, etc.)
- Any scent material over 2 ounces must not be accessible to deer and must be removed daily at the end of hunting hours for deer.
- Honey and solid animal parts or animal by-products may not be used as scent.

Can I still place out salt or mineral blocks or material?

In counties where baiting and feeding of deer is prohibited, no. These materials are considered bait and are not legal. In the remainder of the state, you may only place these materials during the open seasons for deer hunting, and may not exceed the 2 gallon limit per bait site or per 40 acres.

What is the penalty for illegal placement or use of bait material?

A bond amount for a citation issued for illegal bait or baiting is currently set at \$517. The maximum penalty which can be imposed by the court is \$2,109 and loss of all hunting, trapping and fishing privileges for up to 3 years.

For more information, including graphics of legal baiting and feeding activities, go to: <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/land/wildlife/bait.htm>.

Zone T Special Deer Hunting Regulations

Tag Use and Availability in Zone T Deer Management Units

One free Antlerless Deer Carcass Tag will be issued with the purchase of each deer-related license, for a maximum of two free tags, if a hunter purchases both a gun deer and an archery license or a Conservation Patron's License.

Antlerless Deer Carcass Tags may be used in **any Zone T unit** during any open deer season in that unit. Hunters who wish to acquire more antlerless tags for use in Zone T units may purchase Antlerless Deer Carcass Tags at any license vendor beginning at noon on Saturday, August 27 (\$12 each for residents and \$20 each for non-residents).

Zone T Firearm, Muzzleloader and Archery Seasons Registration

- Deer must be registered in the Deer Management Unit of kill or an adjacent unit.
- Deer harvested during the October gun hunt must be registered no later than 5:00 PM on October 31, and deer harvested during the four-day December gun hunt must be registered no later than 5:00 PM on December 12.
- Regular season registration requirements apply to the nine-day gun deer season, November 19 – 27 and the muzzleloader season, November 28 - December 7.
- Deer harvested during the archery season must be registered by 5:00 PM on the 3rd day after the deer was killed or by 5:00 PM on the day after the close of the season in which it was killed, which ever is first.

Zone T State Park Hunting

Those who received authorization to hunt Brunet Island (23A), Perrot (61A), Loew Lake (77D), Peninsula (80C), or Harrington Beach (69C) State Parks through the Hunter's Choice application process may use their free Antlerless Deer Carcass Tag in these parks. However, these units will **not** participate in Zone T season extensions (Oct. 27–30 and Dec. 8–11). Special hours and area restrictions may apply within the parks; this information will be mailed to successful applicants along with their access permit.

State Parks open to deer hunting that are not separate Deer Management Units (see pages 48-50), but fall within Zone T units, will **not** participate in 4-day antlerless hunts in October or December. However, free Antlerless Deer Carcass Tags may be used in these parks during the regular deer hunting seasons.

Metro Units

Metro units 1M, 59M, 60M, 64M, and 77M are designated as Zone T units in 2005. Unit 1M will only participate in the October 27–30 hunt while metro units 59M, 60M, 64M, and 77M will have both the October and December 4-day antlerless only hunts. Antlerless Deer Carcass Tags may be used to tag antlerless deer in any of these units.

Check local ordinances on firearm and bow use before hunting. Some municipalities within the borders of the Metro Units do not allow firearm discharge and some may not allow the discharge of bow and arrow, or crossbow.

Area West of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad Tracks (BNSF)

Deer gun hunting in Zone T units during the October 27–30 or December 8–11 herd control hunts is prohibited in the area west of the BNSF. Archery hunting will be open during this four-day period. Archery deer hunting on private, state and federal lands open to hunting west of the BNSF railroad tracks will be either-sex. This area will be open to gun deer hunting during the regular 9-day season and muzzleloader only season. See map on pages 36 & 37.

Zone T Special Deer Hunting Regulations *continued*

Waterfowl Refuges and Closed Areas

Deer gun hunting in closed areas on state and federal refuges varies. Contact your local DNR office for information on deer hunting in state refuges or contact the refuge manager listed in the special hunts section (pages 8 & 9) for specific regulations regarding federal wildlife and fish refuges, including the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge.

Blaze Orange Clothing

Blaze orange clothing requirements apply to all hunters, except waterfowl hunters, during all deer firearm seasons and hunts, including the October 27 – October 30 and December 8 – December 11 herd control hunts, October 29 youth hunt, the November 19 – 27 gun deer season, and the November 28 – December 7 muzzleloader season. Deer hunters should always be aware that waterfowl hunters and other people may be present, and caution should be exercised. **Always make sure of your target and beyond!**

Deer Tagging in NON-CWD Units

When you purchase your license, you will receive a backtag, an Antlerless Deer Carcass Tag (only valid in Zone T and CWD units), and a Gun Deer Carcass Tag (with a Gun Deer License) or an Archery Deer Carcass Tag (with an Archery License). Individuals who purchase a Conservation Patron License will receive a backtag, a Gun Deer Carcass Tag, and Archery Deer Carcass Tag, and two free Antlerless Deer Carcass Tags.

Deer Tagging Instructions:

1. You must validate the appropriate deer carcass tag immediately upon killing and before field dressing or moving the deer.
2. Be sure you have selected the correct tag (see page 25) and validate by slitting the appropriate date, time and type of deer indicated on the tag.
Note: An antlerless deer is any deer that does not have any antler of 3 or more inches in length.
3. Insert a string or similar fastener through the small hole in the middle of the tag (note: a tab covers the hole). You will need to provide your own string or similar fastener to attach the carcass tag to your deer.
4. Immediately **attach the validated tag to the deer's ear or antler.**
5. After the deer has been tagged, it must be registered at an appropriate registration station. Please see the section on registration (page 24).
6. Any person killing a deer with a firearm for another member of their group deer hunting party (see page 14) must make sure that the person for whom the deer was killed attaches a validated carcass tag to the deer's ear or antler without delay and prior to field dressing or moving the deer.
7. The carcass and registration tags must remain attached to the deer until butchering. The person who killed, tagged or obtained the deer shall retain all tags until the meat is consumed.

**Be responsible.
Dispose of your deer carcasses properly.**

NON-CWD Deer Registration

Deer must be kept intact, except for field dressing and skinning, prior to registration. The lower legs, up to the tarsus joint (“ankle or hock”) on the hind legs and up to the carpus joint (“wrist or knee”) on the front legs, may also be removed.

Exemption: Deer may be skinned and quartered by persons holding a Class A or B Disabled Permit. If the skin or legs are removed prior to registration, they must be kept with the carcass until after the deer is registered.

In addition to the tagging requirements, **all** deer must be registered at a DNR Deer Registration Station. Registration forms are available at deer registration stations and license agents.

Firearm Deer Registration (includes muzzleloader deer season):

- **Location:** All deer must be registered in the unit of kill or in an adjoining unit.
- **Deadline:** All deer killed by firearms must be registered no later than 5:00 p.m. of the day after the close of the season in which the deer was killed. Season dates are listed by unit starting on page 26.

Archery Deer Registration:

- **Location:** All deer killed by archery hunters must be registered in the unit of kill or an adjoining unit.
- **Deadline:** All deer killed by archery hunters must be registered no later than 5:00 p.m. on the third day after the deer was killed or by 5:00 p.m. the day after the season closes, whichever occurs first.

Hunters' Code of Ethics

Positive hunter behavior and ethics will preserve the future of hunting and will help ensure continued opportunities and places to hunt. Ethics cover behavior related to issues such as respect, responsibility and fairness, which can not always be addressed with laws. Responsible and ethical hunters should always:

1. Respect Landowners

- Always know where you are hunting and gain permission before entering private lands. Know how to use a map, compass or GPS unit when needed.
- Be courteous, follow the landowner's rules and treat their property with respect.

2. Respect other Hunters

- Don't interfere or disrupt the hunt of another. Treat other hunters in a manner that you would expect to be treated.

3. Respect Non-Hunters

- Understand that not everyone supports hunting. While everyone is entitled to their own view, positive hunting behavior will not turn someone who is neutral into someone that is opposed.

4. Respect Wildlife and other Natural Resources

- Follow all hunting laws and report violations observed to your local warden.
- Assist or support landowners and the DNR with wildlife habitat projects.